

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 ACDA-19 SCI-06 AEC-11 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

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SSO-00 INRE-00 DRC-01 /139 W
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FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4127

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

S E C R E T OTTAWA 2427

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IN, CA

SUBJECT: CANADIAN TALKS WITH INDIAN FOREIGN SECRETARY.

REF : STATE 165272

1. SCIATT AND EMBOFF MET WITH ROGERS, DIRGEN ASIAN AND PACIFIC BUREAU AND HICKS, SOUTH ASIA DIVISION OF EXTAFF, AUGUST 1, IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING FINAL TALKS BETWEEN GOC REPS AND INDIAN DELEGATION HEADED BY FONSEC KEWAL SINGH. JOINT PRESS RELEASE AND CANADIAN BACKGROUND PAPER SENT SEPTELS.

2. ROGERS SAID BOTH SIDES HAD ADHERED CLOSELY TO PRE-DETERMINED POSITIONS; TALKS HAD BEEN BLUNT AND OCCASIONALLY ACRIMONIOUS. GOC, LED BY PRIME TRUDEAU AND EXTAFF MIN SHARP, INSISTED THERE WOULD BE NO FURTHER NUCLEAR COOPERATION WITH INDIA UNLESS GOI ACCEPTED MORATORIUM ON PNE'S (ROGERS SAID PEACEFUL SHOULD BE IN QUOTES) AT LEAST UNTIL END OF NPT REVIEW, AND AGREED TO GUARANTEE PLUTONIUM FROM CIRRUUS REACTOR WOULD NOT BE USED FOR PNES. KEWAL SINGH REPLIED HIS INSTRUCTIONS WERE RIGID AND OFFERED LITTLE ROOM FOR COMPROMISE. HE AGREE SUBMIT

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MORATORIUM PROPOSAL FOR GOI CONSIDERATION, BUT SAID

CONSTRUCTION OF CIRBUS REACTOR BASED ON AGREEMENT 16 YEARS OLD AND THAT GOI FELT FREE TO USE CIRBUS-PRODUCED PLUTONIUM AS IT WISHED.

3. CANADIANS FELT INDIANS WERE "SELF-RIGHTEOUS" IN REPEATED ASSERTION EXPLOSIONS WERE ENTIRELY PEACEFUL IN INTENT, APPEARING INSULTED THAT ANYONE WOULD THINK OTHERWISE. GOC REPS DID NOT EXPRESS DIRECT DISBELIEF, BUT SHARP, IN FINAL SESSION, SUGGESTED DEVICES MIGHT BE USED AS WEAPONS "BY FUTURE INDIAN GOVERNMENTS."

4. REGARDING TRANSFER OF INDIAN NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY AND EQUIPMENT TO THIRD COUNTRIES, ROGERS SAID SINGH HAD OFFERED "SECRET ASSURANCES" THAT GOI WOULD NOT EXPORT TECHNOLOGY OR EQUIPMENT WHICH COULD BE USED FOR PNE'S OR TO REPROCESS SPENT FUEL. (ROGERS ASKED THAT THIS INFO BE STRICTLY PROTECTED.) SHARP REPLIED THAT SECRET ASSURANCES WERE OF NO UTILITY, AND OFFER LEFT IN ABEYANCE.

5. ROGERS SUGGESTED THAT SUSPENSION OF CANADIAN NUCLEAR PROGRAM WITH INDIA, INVOLVING SOME \$6 MILLION OF REACTOR EQUIPMENT INCLUDING HEAVY WATER PUMPS WHICH WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO PROCURE ELSEWHERE, WOULD DELAY RAJASTHAN PROGRAMS BY ONE OR TWO YEARS. FOLLOWING DISCUSSIONS WITH SINGH AND HIS DELEGATION, CANADIANS TEND BELIEVE GOI QUITE PREPARED CARRY ON NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM WITHOUT CANADIAN INPUT, REGARDLESS OF COST INVOLVED.

6. GOC AND GOI REPS AGREED TO MEET AGAIN IN NEW DELHI IN TWO-THREE MONTHS. GOC WOULD APPRECIATE LEARNING RESULTS OF SINGH'S DISCUSSIONS IN WASHINGTON, OF DEVELOPMENTS IN US ATTITUDE TOWARDS NPT REVIEW, AND SIMILAR PERTINENT INFORMATION.
PORTER

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